

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 2, beginning line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

-- The sleeve of the present invention has at least a portion thereof made of a first and a second sheet of a flexible material, each having distal and proximal end edges and two lateral edges extending therebetween; the sheets being connected one to the other by a plurality of longitudinal connection lines directed transversely to said lateral edges and thereby forming a plurality of longitudinal pressure cells each defined between a pair of connection lines ~~and~~ which form first and second strip regions ~~of~~ on the respective first and second sheets, a width of the second strip region between said pair of connection lines, at least in the majority of the cells, being greater than that of the first strip region., said cells being at least indirectly inflatable and, when inflated to exert pressure on a body, having said second strip region of one cell overlapping the second strip region of an immediately adjacent neighboring cell.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, beginning line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

--As best seen in Figs. 2 and 3, the longitudinal connection lines 30 divide the sheets 20 and 22 into pairs of respective first and second strip regions 40 and 42, which define therebetween the cells 10. The fluid openings 12 are formed in the first strip regions 40. The second strip regions 42, in all the cells except for the most proximal cell that is disposed adjacent the proximal end 4 of the sleeve, are wider than the first strip regions 40, i.e. the width of tile material of which the second strip regions 42 are made is greater than that of the first strip regions 40. Due to this difference, the second strip regions 42 ~~are formed with~~ form pleats 46 which extend along the longitudinal connection lines 30 and are oriented in the direction towards the proximal end 4 of the sleeve. The pleats 46 are formed so as to overlap the second strip regions 42 of immediately adjacent neighboring cells 10, both when the cells 10 are deflated (Fig. 2) and inflated (Figs. 3 and 4). In the deflated state, the extent of overlap is preferably about 25% to 35%. To fix the strip regions 42 in the pleated state, the lateral connection lines 32 pass through the pleats (not seen). It should be mentioned that in different cells, the widths of the first and second strip regions, as well as the extent of overlap, might be different.--